AHCCCS NPI Key Updates
April 2007

- As previously shared, the October Encounter cycle included the addition of an *optional* NPI field and related PMMIS system logic. From this point until submissions on and after the required compliance date, NPI's can be optionally submitted on encounters. <u>For submissions on or after the compliance date NPI's will be required as applicable.</u>

- CMS has elected to allow for an NPI Enforcement delay not exceed May 23, 2008, to allow for ongoing testing and outreach efforts and to ensure no disruption in payment. Refer to the attached documentation which further outlines this delay and AHCCCS' related contingencies.

- A current listing of Provider Type to NPI requirements is available on the AHCCCS Website.

- In February and March we completed an initial series of individual Health Plan/Program Contractor NPI 1-1 meetings with Health Plan/Program Contractor staff to discuss current and proposed outreach efforts, testing, challenges and opportunities. We are available to participate in these types of meetings as requested by the Health Plans/Program Contractors, and we are beginning to plan a second series of these meetings for May and June.

- As requested in a NPI Consortium meeting last fall, AHCCCS prepared an – AHCCCS NPI Fact Sheet. This document was distributed in the January Consortium meeting in its final form. A subsequent request resulted in the development of a single page version focused on provider submission of NPI information (a copy of this document is attached). Both of these documents are posted to the AHCCCS website and may be used in whole or part by any Health Plan or Program Contractor. Please let us know if you have any questions, comments, suggestions, etc for future updates.

- Reminder - Current policy for acceptance of NPI information requires that the information be submitted by the AHCCCS authorized signer or that AHCCCS receive a copy of the notification statement received by the provider from the Enumerator. AHCCCS has made a file of authorized signers by provider available to the Health Plans/Program Contractors as requested.

- Beginning March 1st, AHCCCS requires that all new registrations of "covered" providers include the provider's assigned NPI, prior to completion of the registration process.

- Beginning February 1st, 2007, AHCCCS began the production of the FTP provider file on a weekly basis. This is intended to provide Health Plans and Program Contractors with the most current NPI information on file for all AHCCCS providers.

- NPI Milestone Tracking reports need to be submitted timely upon request, and will be enhanced to include specific Health Plan/Program Contractor contingency related status information. Reminder - We also need to know if the key NPI contact persons within your organizations change, so that we ensure that we are communicating to the appropriate parties.

- NPI Health Plan Testing reminders have been distributed in the last five NPI Consortium meetings. We will continue to work with each health plan individually on testing efforts, and will make a limited set of control group scenarios available for inclusion in your testing with AHCCCS if desired.